

Mayor John Cranley's Young Professional Kitchen Cabinet

Situation: Now is the time to revitalize the YPKC with Mayor John Cranley to fill a gap in Cincinnati that **connects** and **engages** young professionals in public policy and civic engagement.

Proposal: The organization will **connect** young professionals with Cincinnati's **elected** officials and give YPs the **tools** to **engage** communities and constituencies to effect **change**. The organization will also engage young people who work in not for profit, service, and blue collar industries.

Goal: Mayor Cranley's YPKC will be an **action based** co-learning community that excites young professionals, gives them a **behind-the-scenes** look at how their city government works, and gives them a **platform** to engage in public policy.

Objectives:

- Create **connections** between Cincinnati young professionals and **elected government officials** and representatives.
- Taking the **lead** in encouraging other YP groups to take an **active** role in their city's governing process.
- Demonstrate how young professionals can take **ownership** and create change in their city.
- Provide action-based research to **Mayor John Cranley** and elected officials on policies and initiatives impacting the city.
- Create a **vehicle** where young professionals can connect with each other and **grow** through mentorship from **seasoned, veteran** and **retired** professionals in various sectors (business, civic, nonprofit, arts).

YPKC's Means of Engagement is Designed to:

- Acknowledge the interdependence of **associations**. To be **serious** about creating a vibrant city and thriving neighborhoods, we need to organize our energy and passion for Cincinnati, **for example** around a neighborhood (i.e., a school building), instead of being organized around causes and disciplines. There needs to be a **shift** in our regard to boundaries.
- Change the **conversation**, from:
 - problem-solving to **possibility**,
 - negotiation and pursuit of narrow interests to the **co-creation** of common purpose,
 - blame to taking **responsibility**, and
 - retribution to **restoration**
- Make **connection** and **relationship** the point. Problems exist to create relationships, not the other way around. **Politics** create strange bedfellows; relationships create surprising **friends** and **allies**.
- Focus on **gifts** and **assets**, which **replaces** our **focus** on deficiencies. **This is the work:** to **value** and bring to the center the gifts of those in the **community** that remain on the **margin**.